★ 39th Year of Publication ★ 30 Paise ★

FREE INDIA

FOUNDER : E. R. GOVINDAN

Vol. XXXIX | Madras, Sunday, November, 6, 1977 | No. 8

murphy radio
Delights the home!
V.G. PANNEERDAS & CO. (P) LTD.
SAIDAPET, MADRAS-600 015.
Phone : 442333
Branches :
T'NAGAR, MADRAS-600 017.
Phone : 440246
7/8, Mount Road, Madras-600 002
Phone : 812121

RECEIVE ON 7 NOV

Slide-down In Nuclear Policy

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NUCLEAR technology is one of the most vital aspects in the progress of modern science. Occupation in this field is mistakenly considered as being clubbed with the development of nuclear energy for destructive ends. It is one thing to pile up nuclear weaponry for one's own defence and quite another to augument knowledge in the pursuit of re-structuring nuclear build-up towards achievement of capability to serve humanity.

India's interest in nuclear fusion is purely out of a desire to convert this vital energy in the service of her industries, transport and medical care. In wanting to develop her own technology in this laudable but definitely limited and sophisticated orbit, she has to rely largely on outside help for supplies of raw fuel like the enriched uranium for the Tarapore plant from the U.S. and heavy water for reactors on U.S.S.R.

SLIDE-DOWN

It has ever been India's avowed policy and determination not to succumb to outside pressures whenever her sovereignty and individuality are threatened even in the matter of the development of her nuclear capabilities. But the news that the new government at the Centre has agreed to the periodic inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency of India's operations in Rajasthan, and New Delhi renouncing her right to conduct peaceful nuclear explosion like the one done at Pokhran in May 1974 is a clear indication of a slide-down in firmness.

The present posture is so submissive and radically different from that of the former policy of not giving-in to the dictates of the big powers.

Signing an agreement similar to the one Japan and U.S. initialled in September could well mean the abandonment of the vital option for "swadeshi" progress in Nuclear Technolgy.

UNDER DURESS

The Soviet Union, the United States, France, Canada and China belong to the select set of five who have built arsenals of nuclear armaments.

Japan appears to have signed the agreement under great duress. She is hurt by the fact that while some European countries are not subject to an American Veto in processing spent nuclear fuel, she alone should be circumscribed by a special frame of restrictions.

The containment of Japan is understandable because she proved to be a belligerent power on two occasions. In the Second World War she played havoc before being ultimately defeated by the U.S., U.S.S.R. and their allies.

But India stands on a different footing altogether. She was never depended on others for her nuclear skills. India hopes to tap her own non-uranium resources—mainly thorium—for her future power projects.

NEW CODE OF CONDUCT

About 15 countries with the U.S. and U.S.S.R heading the list, have the capability to export the tools, know-how and fuels to developing nations in the nuclear field.

America has succeeded in lining up all these exporting countries at a meeting in October this year in pursuit of the Carter Plan for a "safer", better ordered world-wide system of peaceful development of nuclear energy.

India needs to assert herself and not permit to be crippled in this vital field of national endeavour.

The conference of the 14 nations, mostly, European, has hatched a code of conduct which is as discriminatory as the Non-Proliferation Treaty. It includes proposals for a general ban on the export of plants to reprocess spent uranium which can produce plutonium.

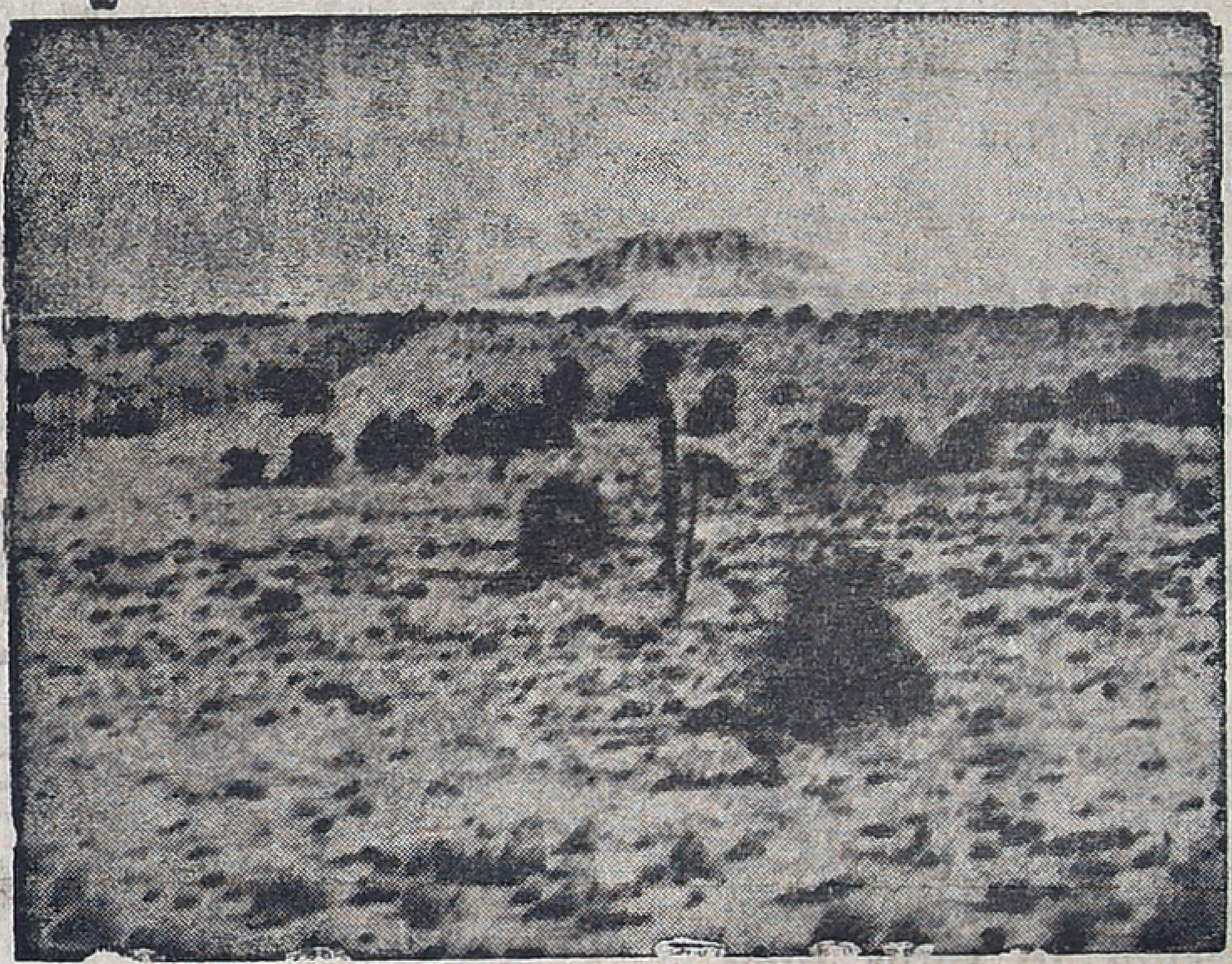
SELF RELIANT

India is trying to strike out on its own. Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu and Narora in Gujarat, will be almost 100 percent indigenous. New heavy water plants are being built which will make India largely self-sufficient for the reactors already under construction. That is why India need not go out of the way to place under bilateral or international supervision of the plants build-up which she is capable of undertaking without major foreign assistance.

India's experience with Canada has not been rosy after the latter went back on her words, not once, but on two occasions. The first was after the Bangaladesh liberation and later when India made her explosion at Pokhran. So she need not now be tempted to fall for carrots being dangled before her by the major powers.

The entire scheme for fast breeders will go awry if India were to take one false step. The Janata Government need not foul up all the good work so far undertaken by India's most talented scientists.

Pokhran Blast



On May, 18, 1974, Indian Scientists carried out the first underground nuclear explosion in Western India. This experiment is for a peaceful purpose. It is in line with our plans to use nuclear energy for power generation and application in agriculture, industry and medicine. It was entirely an Indian effort, including the vital plutonium use in detonation. It was set off at a depth of 100 metres and there was no harmful radio activity.

Picture shows mound rising seconds after the explosion.

THUS SPAKE THE MAHATMA

My religion has no geographical limits. If I have a living faith in it, it will transcend my love for India herself. My life is dedicated to service of India through the religion non violence.

ASOKA SCENTED BETELNUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Nov. 6, 1977

DAMNABLE D.M.K.

The Madras City Police must be congratulated for containing the ugly protests by the DMK men.

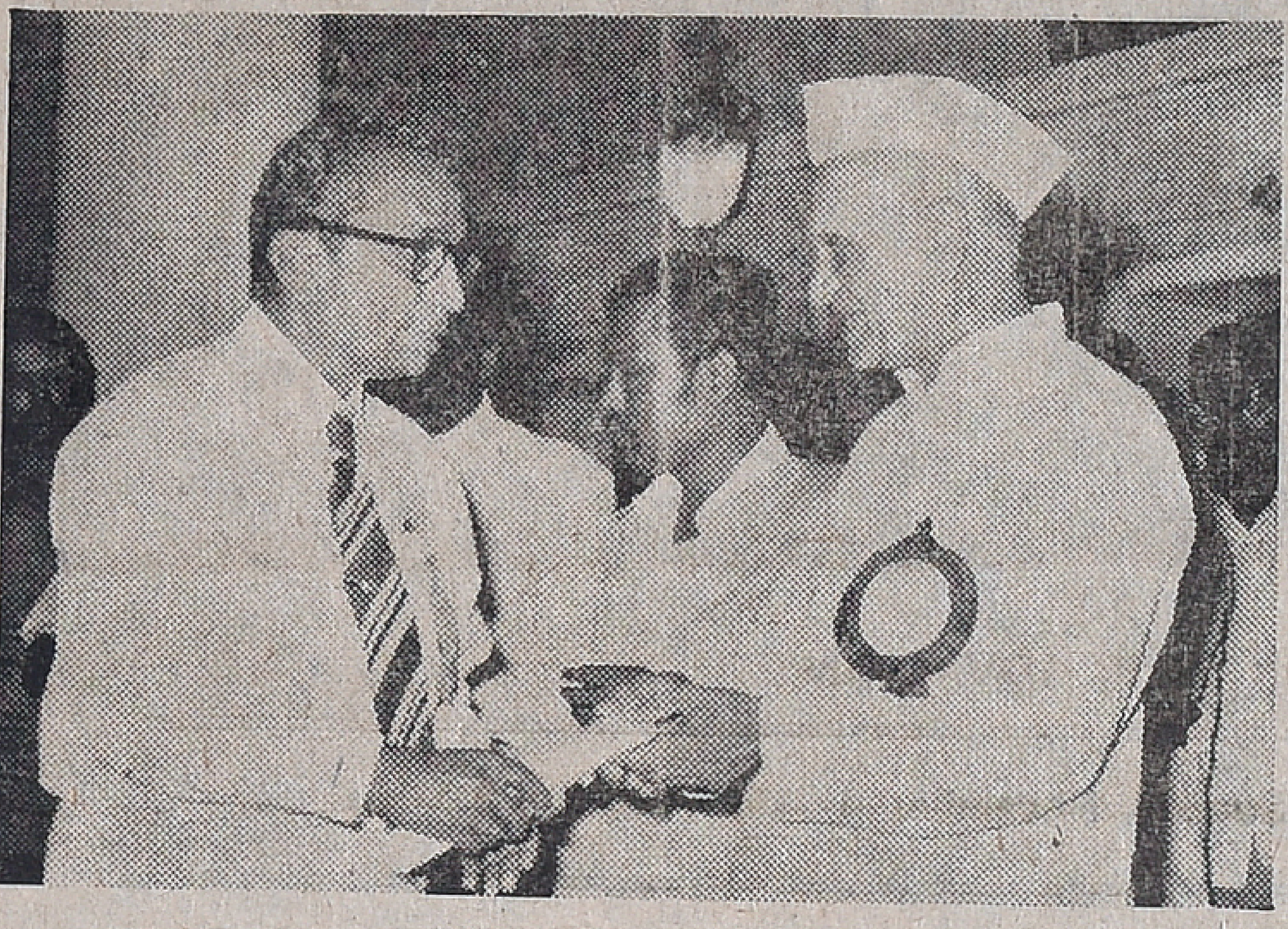
Black flag demonstrations are considered a civilised way of protest in a democracy. Normally resorted to against people in power, the DMK was given permission to show their resentment at the actions of Smt. Indira Gandhi.

But to the surprise of many, the mad men of Madurai unit of the party came with deadly weapons hidden in the black flags. Smt. Indira Gandhi's car was attacked with stones and sticks. If the attacks had not missed their targets, the nation would have been plunged into a mourning.

It is an undeniable fact that under the Janatha and AIDMK rule, the police have to work under severe handicaps. Every action of the police is invariably criticised and every incident provokes pleas for judicial enquiry. But the police can't relax its vigil to prevent violence by political parties.

About 5,000 people had gathered to show black flags in Madurai. The intelligence department must have known in advance the big plot to attack the former Prime Minister. Preventive dentention of some of the goonda mintons of the DMK would have saved the situation.

TEACHER HONOURED



The Tamil Nadu Government honoured 384 teachers of the State recently at Rajaj. Hall, Madras, by decorating them with State Awards in recognition of their services in the field of education. Picture shows Mr. S. Thirumalai Rangaswamy, one of the honoured teachers, receiving the award from Mr. Prabhudas Patwari, Governor of Tamil Nadu.

Popularly known as "STR", Mr Rangaswamy is teaching at the famous Sethupathi High School, Madurai, where the great poet Subramania Bharathi taught and Yogi Suddanantha Bharati studied.

Starting his career in the Madura College High School (the then A. R High School) as a secondary grade teacher, he has 36 years of teaching experience. A strict disciplinarian, he has always been kind to the students. A man of all round knowledge, he is interested in music, dance and drama. The Lions of Madurai honoured him when he completed 25 years of service as a teacher.

Of Men And Matters

From Corruption To Anarchy

As if not satisfied with having damaged all canons of morality in public life while in office, the DMK, now out of power, seems to be bent upon inflicting the worst kind of destruction on society.

The flagrant defiance of law and order witnessed last Sunday at Saidapet and elsewhere in the city was an example of goondaism in all its nakedness.

Mr. M. Karunanidhi, in defying the ban by the Commissioner of Police on the showing of Black Flag protesting against Mrs. Indira Gandhi's visit to Tamil Nadu probably did not take into account that the miscreants will play havoc. The unruly elements of Saidapet probably wanted to out do their compatriots in Madurai who indulged in violence when Mrs. Gandhi went there.

At Saidapet cars, police vans trains and a jeep were set on fire and they were reduced to scrap. Policemen doing their duty were stoned. Women and children going about their avocations on a Sunday morning had to run to safety.

The regional parties are no full-fledged political parties in the real sense. When voted to power their leaders held back their fists to give the impression that they have reformed themselves into gentlemen, but the moment they are defeated and put out of office the same men become insolent and indulge in acts of most unbecoming of decent civilised people.

Men who talk of cultural reform and social changes use these as excuses to gain popularity in politics. People alone must decide to discount these waylayers of democracy.

The likely chain reactions will be really formidable. If every party in the country chooses to follow the methods of DMK, political life will become impossible in the country, where with such alarming unemployment, it will not be difficult to collect supporters for any cause—just and unjust.

Will the Chief Minister call a meeting of all party leaders to put into their heads the need for decency in public life? Let us save atleast Tamil Nadu from the growing indiscipline not only among politicians but among students and trade unionists also. If the Chief Minister fails, the police must be given a free hand to contain agitations which result in loss of life and and public property.

—*DEEVEE.*

Reader Writes

IDLE TALK

I am pained to see people wasting valuable time by indulging in idle controversy whether one's urine has medicinal value, or whether goat's milk is far nutritious than cow's milk.

First of all, it is disputable if in this modern age the highly advanced man is physically healthier and stronger than what his forefathers were. The urine of a man who had lived 100 years ago would not have been contaminated with as much chemical impurities as is the man of today who consumes mostly chemicalised food. So, drinking his own urine may not act as a curative as it once did.

Granting that goat's milk is low in fat content and richer in value, one wonders whether today's goats are able to graze on the same kind of medicinal herbs as was possible 50 years ago. We are indiscriminately cutting down trees and destroying plants to make way for modern buildings. Goats have to be fed on grass and leaves having herbal properties.

The food intended for man and animal has come down in quality leading to the multiplicity of diseases in them. It is even doubtful if modern cows yield richer milk than in the past. Under these circumstances, to draw consolation from man's urine and goat's milk would be a luxury.

R. Sundar
Madras-83

TIIC Slashes Lendig Rates

The State-owned Tamil Nadu Industrial Investment Corporation (TIIC) has slashed its interest rates by one to four per cent on certain term loans for small and medium entrepreneurs from Oct. 1

Consequently, interest rates on term loans granted to small scale industrialists out of TIIC's own funds and those granted out of refinance obtained from IDBI have become the same. Hitherto the difference was two per cent.

In the case of medium industries, the difference has now been narrowed down to one per cent.

Disclosing this Mr. M.N. Govindaraj, managing director of TIIC, said the reduction in lending rates on certain term loans was in line with the latest Reserve Bank policy to peg term lending rates at a particular level.

I came singing and dreaming God with you; in the song and the dream I depart; and in His song and dream we shall meet again.
—*Paramahansa Yogananda*

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Architect Of India

By SHRI PRABHUDAS BALUBHAI PATWARI
Governor of Tamil Nadu

The author has been a close associate of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. In this article published in connection with the Sardar's 102nd birth day anniversary (October 31, 1977) he outlines the role Sardar played in unifying our Motherland.

ON the death of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, on 15th of December 1950, Shri Vinoba, before a gathering of villagers at his Ashram, observed that "a towering personality of the eminence of King Janaka has passed away from our midst. Amidst palacial glitter and royal pomp he had lived a detached life of King Janaka. Due to his presence in the Government, the people felt that the ship of the country was safe in his hands." This, to a degree, epitomizes Sardar's character and also refers abstractly to those services of Sardar at the altar of Mother Bharat that brought him a perennial name.

In all humility, when I think of the Sardar of the later twenties when he had galvanized into life the entire peasantry of the Bordoli taluq to give Bureau cracy one of the most decisive fights of the day with the matchless weapon of Non-violence, I feel too that it was God's abundant mercy upon me to be able to devour with avidity those stirring sermons of the Sardar that instilled vigour and heroism in people like a magic touch and transformed their timidity into real valour. Like Gandhiji Sardar made men out of clay, chiselled the man material and canalized their energies towards the enrichment of our national life.

RELIEF WORK IN GUJARAT

Sardar's work in the relief field is practically an unknown matter outside Gujarat. But in that he took special delight and it will be truer to say that it is through this service of the Daridra Narayana that Sardar derived his superhuman strength to serve the national cause.

It may rightly be said that Sardar was a pioneer of systematized relief work in Gujarat. As a Municipal Councillor (1918), amidst the outbreaks of plauge and influenza, Sardar preferred to be by the side of people than leave the city for safety. Barrister Vallabhbhai of those days used to walk from *cherri* to *cherri* to give a word of comfort to the afflicted people and cheer up their sunken hearts. It is unimaginable to think of Sardar opening even temporary hospital for providing medical relief to the plague stricken. But this Sardar did without any ostentation.

The flood relief operations organised by Sardar covered practically the whole of Gujarat when it was laid low by the unprecedented monsoon rains lasting continuously for almost a week (1927). On the midnight of the day when rains began to pour in torrents, Sardar was sleepless. Coming out of his house, he walked towards a friend's house in pitch dark and bursting rains and took the friend with him. They went round all the vulnerable spots of the city; and this done, straight they went to the Municipal Engineer, and waking him from his sleep, took him with them to the Municipal Office. In no time, the menials and staff were summoned to duty and speediest steps were taken for the drainage of rainy water and the city was saved from much further ruination. This was the exemplary sense of civic duty in the Sardar.

GOVT. STUNNED

Gandhiji was then convalescing in Bangalore. He wired to the Sardar that he had no strength in him to move from place to place and yet he would come if Sardar approved of it. To that Sardar replied to the effect that if he would wish to test them how far they have imbibed his teachings of self-help and co-operation, better would it be if he could stay over there and recoup himself. And Gandhiji heeded to Sardar's advice, for he had abundant faith in Sardar's innate and profound capacity to overcome this calamity on Gujarat. Sardar's relief work had then reached the remotest and farflung villages of Gujarat. The efforts were so systematic and organised that he could restore normalcy in Gujarat hardly in two months.

INDIAN STATES

The Government was stunned at the promptness and thoroughness of this effort and thanks to Sardar's initiative, it felt impelled to earmark its funds to the tune of Rs. 2 crores and more in the form of cheap loans and gratuitous money for the reconstruction of houses of the thousands of homeless. The full story of this mission of mercy will take pages. But suffice it to say here that this episode is a most inspiring page in his life-story and it had left its imprint on the life of Gujarat to such an extent that whenever such calamities overtake Gujarat that distant scene of 1927 becomes vivid to our eyes and inspires us to render service to the people in distress.

During pre-partition days the Indian States 556 and odd, had occupied 45% of the land area of the country. When the ill-fated partition came, the area covered by then rose to 48% approximately. The area of the State of Jammu and Kashmir alone was 82,000 square miles. There were 15 states with an area exceeding 10,000 square miles. Again, there were at least 67 States whose dimensions ranged between 1,000 and 10,000 square miles. To put it succinctly, India of those days was dotted with these bountiful patches.

States, constitutionally, were not treated as a part and parcel of the mother country. The successive British pronouncements right from Queen Victoria's proclamation (1858) till Lord Wavell's clarificatory statement of May, 1946, had upheld this artificial separation of States from the mother country.

How Sardar arrested this process and persuaded the States, one after another, to accede to the Union, though, to begin with on a limited basis in order to assure their participation in the Constituent Assembly even before India achieved its Independence and how on its dawn Sardar worked step by step towards that Unity of the country as we see it today, is a marval absolute indeed.

MARVAL ABSOLUTE

Was there a compulsion in the process? If it were so, things would not have moved so swiftly. Nor would they have held Sardar in such high esteem; neither they would have felt so much forlorn after the dimise of Sardar. It was not the duplicity of Lord Wellesley nor the ruthlessness of Prince Bismarck, for Sardar was far from it—but the act of most genuine, benevolent and outstanding statesmanship imbued with burning spirit of patriotism in him which made princes to read the signs of times and to rise up to meet those demands of the time in a spirit of 'comradeship and patriotism.

This coupled with Sardar's spirit of utmost accommodation and understanding and the faith they carried in this words set the ball of this bloodless revolution rolling in full swing and in it the princes, the people of the States and the Government of India indeed played like co-partners for a consummation so devoutly nurtured by the savants and the patriots of the ages and kept ever burning by the ennobling spirit of the Mahatma, but at last sunk to greatest dejection and misery by the vivisection of the Mother of his Dream for which alone he worked and lived and died in a manner which has no precedent in history.

FINISHING TOUCH

This revulsion which, in right sense, made its debut in December 1947 in the form of merger agreements with 40 B and C States of Eastern and Central India took into its whirlpool "a veritable jig-saw puzzle" of 449 different jurisdictions of Kathiawad involving the territory of 22 000 square miles all merging into the Union of Saurashtra. That spectacular event gathered such momentum and speed that from February, when this coveted union appeared on the political map of India, till up to July 1948 the Unions of Matsya, the Smaller Rajasthan, the Vindhya Pradesh, the Malwa alias the Madhya Bharat and the Pepsu, etc., emerged on the map of India in quick succession, thus practically marking the glorious end to this revolution and thereby adding nearly 4½ lakh square miles of territory to our mother land.

Only two unions i. e. the Union of Greater Rajasthan and the Union of Travancore-Cochin were formed afterwards in 1949 and they were like the finishing touch to the new edifice of India that we see today.

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATION

While accomplishing this task of integration, Sardar's eye looking into the future had some strategic consideration too in his mind. He first untied the gordian knot of Saurashtra because it was in that part of the country, some bold attempts for the balkanization of the country were mooted. He assigned Cutch to Central Administration, for he thought of it as a vulnerable spot by virtue if its geographical position in the defence strategy

(Contd. on page 8)

L.G
COMPOUNDED ASAFOETIDA
FOREMOST FOOD FLAVOURING AND PRESERVATIVE.
LALJEE GODHOO & CO. MADRAS 1.
BOMBAY

For The Week 6th November To 12th November 1977

MESHA (ARIES)
Aswini Bharani
Krittika 1/4

THE whole week will be progressive. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems. Financial position will improve. Minor speculative gains are also indicated. You should continue your efforts. You will be able to reap the benefits in a couple of months. Domestic secene will be pleasant. But avoid friction with elders. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days: 6th & 7th.

VRISHABA (TAURUS)
Krittika 3/4 Rohini
Mrigashirsha 1/2

MOST of the week will be favourable. You will be able to develop fresh contacts. Long pending issues will be cleared to your satisfaction: Financial position will be satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. Also you should be cautious, before finalising any property transaction. Domestic responsibility will increase. But you can expect cooperation from your family membeis. Favourable dady: 8th & 9th.

MITHUNA (GEMINI)
Mrigashirsha 1/2 Arudra
Punarvasu 3/4

THE week begins with progressive trend. You should utilise this opportunity to improve your financial position. Investments made in real estate will yield good results. You can expect some improvement in office. Health will be well maintained. You will be undertaking short journeys frequently. You may also think of shifting your residence in the near future. Favourable days: 10th & 11th.

KATAKA (CANCER)
Punarvasu 1/4 Pushya
Ashlesha

MOST of the week is favourable. Family celebrations are indicated. You will also get much pleasure due to youngsters. Financial position will improve. Speculative gains are also indicated. Property matters could be finalised favourably. Change of place is indicated for some. Business shows an upward trend. Health will be well maintined. You will be reviving some of your old contacts. Favourable days 8th & 9th.

SIMHA (LEO)
Maka Purva Palguni
Uttara Palguni 1/4

THE week starts well Professional prospects will improve. There is scope for financial improvement. Family happiness is assured. Religious performance is indicated in the family. You should try to cultivate new friendships. But your dealings with relatives call for vigilance. Health will be well maintained. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days: 8th & 9th.

KANYA (VIRGO)
Uttara Palguni 3/4 Hastha
Chitra 1/2

This week starts well. Mental activity will increase. There are no major changes in the office. But you should continue your efforts to get proper recognition. Financial position will be satisfactory. Speculative investments in real property estate will yield good results. Partnership matters could be finalised favourably. Favourable days: 9th & 10th.

THULA (LIBRA)
Chitra 1/2 Swathi
Visakha 3/4

MOST of the week will be favourable. You should devote more attention to professional matters. Avoid friction with associates. But you can expect encouragement from superiors. You may have to take up additional responsibility, Domestic scene will be pleasant. Finance is fairly satisfactory. You can expect some benefits from opposite sex. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days: 11th & 12th.

VRISCHIKA (SCORPIO)
Vishakha 1/4 Anuradha
Jyeshtha

THERE is speculative attraction this week. Professional prospects are better. You should go ahead with your efforts. You will be able to reap the benefits in a months time. Domestic happiness is assured. Change of place is indicated for some. Partnership matters require more attention. Finance will improve. But avoid speculative investments for some more time, Favourable days: 7th & 8th.

DHANUS (SAGITTARIUS)
Mula Purva Ashadha
Uttara Ashadha 1/4

THE first part of the week is better than the other half. You should try to complete importan work during the first part of the week. Family members will be cooperative. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. Your mind will go toward fresh comforts. Short journeys are indicated. Speculative invesment in real estate will yield good results after some time. Favourable days: 6th & 7th.

MAKARA (CAPRICORNUS)
Uttara Ashadha 3/4
Shravana Dhanistha 1/2

This week opens with favourable impact on friendship and social contact. There is some improvement in family environment. Midweek is expensive with fresh purchases. Health will be well maintained. Partnership matters require attention. Avoid long distance journeys unless necessary. Property matters could be finalised favourably. Favourable days: 8th & 9th.

KUMBHA (AQUARIUS)
Dhanishta 1/4 Sathabhishag
Purva Badrapada 3/4

THIS week opens with favourable trend in the office. You can expect recognition for the efforts you were making in the past. You will be offered a more attractive position in the near future. Finance is fairly satisfactory. Minor speculative gains are also possible. Family atmosphere will be pleasant. Children's progress will give you much pleasure. Health requires attention. Favourable days: 9th & 10th.

MEENA (PISCES)
Purva Badrapada 1/4
Uttara Badrapada Revati

MOST of the week will be favourable. Professional prospects are bright. You should wait for some more time, if you are thinking of shifting your reridence. Family members will be cooperative. Finance will improve. Minor speculative gains are also indicated. You can expect some benefits from your relatives. You should also try to cultivate new contacts. Favourable days: 7th & 8th.

FUN AND LAUGHTER

MEANING

Teacher to pupil: "Spell 'Straight."

Pupil: "S-t-r-a-i-g-h-t.',

Teacher: "Correct! What does it mean?"

Pupil: "With out soda!"

x x x

THE WAY OUT

"I want to get into some business where I am sure to get a foothold."

"That is easy. Become a chiropodist."

x x x

DEFINITION

"Did you ever see anyone as bow-legged as that girl?"

"No. Legs like tnat are few and fry between."

x x x

NEWTON'S THOUGHT

Teacher: Can you tell me what thought passed through Sir Issac Newton's head when the apple fell on it?"

Boy: "Glad it wasn't a brick, sir."

x x x

HEREAFTER

Busy Executive: "Do you believe in the hereafter?"

Bore: "Sure I do."

Busy Executive: "Then, hereafter please don't bother me."

AGREED!

A very stout lady waddled up to the counter. "I should like to see a jumper my size," she said. "So should I" whispered the assistant to her neighbour.

x x x

DAMAGE

Boxer:—"Have I done him any damage?"

Disgusted Second:—"No, but keep swinging. The draft might give him a cold."

x x x

THE END

Uncle: "I've just been having a tussle with the dentist."

Nephew: "Who won?"

Uncle: "It ended in a draw."

x x x

ACCORDING TO RECIPE

One day the Colonel walked into the Army kitchen.

"Attention!" the mess sergeant shouted. All sprang to attention except the new recruit cook.

"What's the matter?" asked the Colonel. "Why don't you stand up when the command is given?"

"Sir," was the reply, "I have just started this recipe, which says, don't stir for 25 minutes."

Khadi: Panacea For The Millions

By JUSTICE N. KRISHNASWAMY REDDY (Retd)

INDIA was once a very rich country with plenty of food and clothing. Wealth was widely distributed among her people. She had trade relations with other countries by land and sea. Her textile industry was of the most advanced and flourishing, though it was run by man-power with indigenous spinning wheel and weaving looms. Fine cloth like Dacca muslin was hand made by skilled artisans.

After the Britishers came to India as traders and had established their domination, the textile industry was systematically destroyed; Cotton used by the local artisans for spinning and weaving was exported from India to the United Kingdom and cloth was made there, out of exported cotton, in their gignatic mills and sold in the Indian markets making enormous profits. The Indian artisans were thrown out of employment. Skilled artisans were disabled.

DYNAMIC PROGRAMME

As a result of exploitation by the Britishers, India which was once self-sufficient in food and clothing became poor and had to depend upon other countries even for her basic needs such as food and clothing. It was at this time, there was an awareness among the right-thinking intellectuals that this state of affairs must be put an end to and something must be done towards this direction.

Mahatma Gandhi who returned from South Africa in 1915, after having undertaken an extensive tour, far and wide, in the villages of our country, found the staggering problem of unemployment among the villagers who constitute eighty per cent of Indian population, having no scope and opportunity to utilise their idle hours for useful productive purposes in spite of their possessing adequate skill. He was convinced that the revival of the spinning wheel was the only solution for the problem of unemployment and for self-sufficiency in food and clothing. He gave to the nation a dynamic programme of Swadeshi and boycott of foreign cloth for attaining Swaraj. To supplement this programme, Gandhiji started the scheme of Khaddar or charka movement.

VIOLENT CRITICISM

There was violent criticism about this movement from various quarters especially from those who were staunch adherents of western ideologies. It was stated that modern mechine-industry and commerce are so powerful and world-wide and that materials produced by power-driven machinery are so cheap in price and of such quality and so widely distributed, that an attempt to compete with them on any large scale would be absurd and foolish.

Gandhiji, who was unmindful of these criticisms, was writing, speaking and propagating the spinning wheel and khadi. As a result of untiring and ceaseless propaganda of Gandhiji, thousands of national workers have taken to wearing hand-spun and hand-woven cloth as a matter of discipline, Some took to it as way of life. Some took pride in wearing even torn Khadi cloth. Thus the spinning wheel (charka) became a symbol of 'patriotism'. Jawaharlal Nehru in one of his eloquent patriotic speeches in the year 1922, described Khadi as the 'livery freedom'. Gandhiji was questioned as to why he was suggesting the spinning wheel as the only panacea for the sufferings of the millions of villagers. He had said :

"The spinning movement aims at restoring spinning to the millions of cottages of India from which it was removed by unjust, illegal and tyrannical methods. The movement could not have been started, if somehow or other, the cottages which were deprived of this universal supplemental industry had a substitute provided for it. Unfortunately or fortunately, no substitute was provided. Hence, sheer necessity compelled the students of village life, after having exhausted all other means, to resort to the spinning wheel as the only immediate solution for the serious economic distress that had overtaken the millions of India's homes by reason of the extinction of Cottage Industry."

SYMBOL OF TRUTH

Gandhiji, on another occasion, after giving convincing reasons about the importance of Khadi, in the economic life in villages said inspiringly : "Khadi is the chief village handicraft. Kill Khadi and you must kill the villages and with them non-violence. I cannot prove this by statistics. The proof is before your eyes".

To Gandhiji, the 'Charka' is not merely meant for spinning yarn for making cloth to cover the human body but it truly stands as symbol of Truth, non-violence and self-sufficiency. Gandhiji wanted that everyone should have 'Khadi spirit'. He explained what 'Khadi spirit' is in the following inimitable words :

"Every time that we take khadi garment in the morning to wear for going out, we should remember that we are doing so in the name of 'Daridra Narayan' and for the sake of the starving millions of India. If we have the "Khadi Spirit" in us we would surround ourselves, with simplicity in every walk of life. The 'Khadi spirit' means also an equally illimitable faith. Even as the spinner toiling away at the spinning wheel, has illimitable faith, that the yarn he spins by itself small enough, put in the aggregate, would be enough to clothe every human being in India, so must we have illimitable faith in 'Truth and Non-violence'. Ultimately conquering every obstacle in our way.

Gandhiji wanted the intellectuals and the leaders, to ply the spinning wheel and wear coarse khadi, live a simple life and lay down example of dignity of labour, self-reliance and simplicity. He himself set an example to others by scrupulously and meticulously observing what he said.

The intellectuals, leaders, and even members belonging to the privileged class took to spinning wheel and worked at it as their 'Dharma'. We still have in our midst Sarvodaya leaders, workers and members of Sarva Seva Sangh and allied organisations following the ideals of Gandhiji, especially towards the direction of Khadi work.

KHADI MOVEMENT

The Khadi movement gained a great momentum, due to tremendous influence of Gandhiji on the masses by his stalwart personality, during pre-independence days.

The Khadi movement appealed to the masses as they found, hand-spinning on charka was easy and practicable. No capital is necessary for its operation. Raw materials are available locally. It does not require any high-degree of skill. Physical exertion is so little that even children and old persons can practise it and so contribute their mite to the family fund. It is easily marketable locally and in the neighbourhood.

Eighty per cent of the people in India live in villages. Their main occupation is agriculture. Sixty to seventy per cent of them are small farmers. They work only four or five months in a year, as their work is seasonal. Thirty per cent of them appear to be somewhat developed. The rest are living in poverty as they remain unoccupied in the villages for want of work. The khadi programme provides supplemental occupation to the farmers. It provides decent wages. For every one-rupee worth of cloth, twenty one per cent goes to the spinner and twenty six per cent goes to the weaver as wages. Forty seven per cent of the cost of production is provided for labour in the khadi industry, whereas only ten per cent of the cost of production in the textile mills goes to labour. After the introduction of Ambar Charka with two to twelve spindles and appropriate technology along with it, the wages and the production increased. Thus the wage structure for man-power in Khadi industry is very much higher than that of the machine industry. Economically, the khadi industry brings self-sufficiency to the villagers. Khadi industry has become an attractive one especially to the weaker sections of the community.

J.C. Kumarappa, a renowned economic expert, who was originally wedded to Western ideas of economy, after thorough study and research of economic and social life of millions of people in the villages, had unequivocally supported the Khadi movement of Gandhiji and said :

"That the guiding factors in a social order governed by the ideals of khadi are our cultural tradition, the equitable distribution of goods and such other considerations which bring us into closer relationship with our fellow-men and that the message of khadi includes producing enough food to supply all our needs by our own efforts, looking after those in need of help and bringing about human relationships based on non-violence and truth".

Unfortunately, after Independence, our planners rejected the Gandhian approach to economics and went the Western way. Successive plans have not been able to solve the problems of poverty in India. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India, having realised that the plans have not succeeded, spoke in the Parliament Sessions of 1963, as follows :

"One thing that distresses me very greatly is that although I am convinced that the great majority of our population has bettered itself, may be, a little, and has more calories and more clothes, yet, there is goodly number of people in India who have not profited by planning and whose poverty is abysmal and most painful and I do think that some method should be found to remedy the situation".

He further said :

"I begin to think more and more of Gandhian approach".

Unfortunately, he did not live long to bring this into action.

Whether the Gandhian approach to economics is good or not in any other country, there cannot be any doubt that at this moment, it is the only approach which is conducive to Indian conditions, to solve the problem of poverty of teeming millions of people living in villages.

WRONG NOTION

Though the Governments, from the time of Independence, were talking of expanding Khadi Programme, they were permitting a substantial increase in the production of textile mills. All India Khadi Board and Khadi and Village Industries Commission are constituted to look after khadi work. Their work is limited. To make khadi work full and complete, the Government should come forward with plans based on Gandhian approach. The present Prime Minister of

(Contd. on page 8)

60 YEARS OF USSR: A FEATURE

Monument to V. I. Lenin in the Moscow Kremlin, where he worked since 1918 till his death.

How Dynamic Is the USSR at 60?

By VLADIMIA LOMEIKO

SIXTY years even for a human being does not always mean old age. For many people it is a time of the flourishing of their mental and creative abilities.

The State has different criteria. And among the highly developed countries the Soviet Union is one of the youngest. And although historically 60 years is a very short period of time, the USSR has reached the stage of maturity. The new constitution, adopted on the eve of the 60th Anniversary of the Soviet State, says that the USSR has built a developed socialist society. This means a stage of maturity of the new society when socialism is developing on its own foundation.

At 60, the USSR is characterised by stability and dynamism of development.

In the economy the Soviet Union has become transformed from an underdeveloped country to a modern industrial State. Prior to the October Revolution, Russia produced just over four per cent of world industrial output and occupied fifth place in the world. Today, the USSR has moved to second place in the world and its share is equal to one-fifty of world industrial production.

Today, in 2.5 days, the USSR produces as much as the whole of pre-revolutionary Russia did in a year. These figures are the best proof of the strength and dynamism of modern Soviet industry. And this despite the death of 20 million citizens and loss of one-third of the national wealth during the Second World War. If we discard all the years of the war and rehabilitation of the ravaged economy, 20 in all, then what has been achieved by the USSR is the result not of 60 but of 40 years of growth.

One of the reasons for the dynamic development of the country is the steady progress in improving the standards of living, education and culture. Worker's real incomes have grown almost ten-fold in the past 60 years and those of peasants by more than 14 times. In pre-revolutionary Russia three-quarters of the population were illiterate and less than 200,000 people had a higher education. Now one in three studies and 24 million have a higher or specialised secondary education. The order of the day is continuous education for adults which will give a powerful impulse to the creative activity of the population.

Society's greater concern for man, which is expressed in the new right to housing, to health protection, in extending the rights and opportunities for citizens to take part in running the State, and much else, adds to the social confidence of the people, and produces a responsible feeling of sharing in the needs of society.

GREAT STRIDES

By GLEB SPIRIDONOV, APN Commentator

THE period between 1917 and 1977 has brought about tremendous changes in the economic and social life of the USSR unparalleled in history in scope and pace. The national income of the USSR has, in these years, increased 103 times over. The planned socialist economy has ensured the rapid growth of industrial production which has risen by 225 times. Prior to the revolution Russia accounted for only slightly over 4 per cent of world industrial output, whereas now it is one-fifth.

Profound economic and social changes have been carried out in the countryside. In the years of Soviet power the USSR has created a large-scale socialist agriculture based on powerful machinery and advanced scientific farming. The total agricultural output over these years has increased by 4. 4 times.

SOCIAL CHANGES

In 1976 the country gathered in a record grain crop in its history—223.8 million tons. It is now successfully implementing the agrarian policy of the CPSU aimed at turning farm production into a highly developed sector of the economy. The further specialisation and concentration of this branch are in progress.

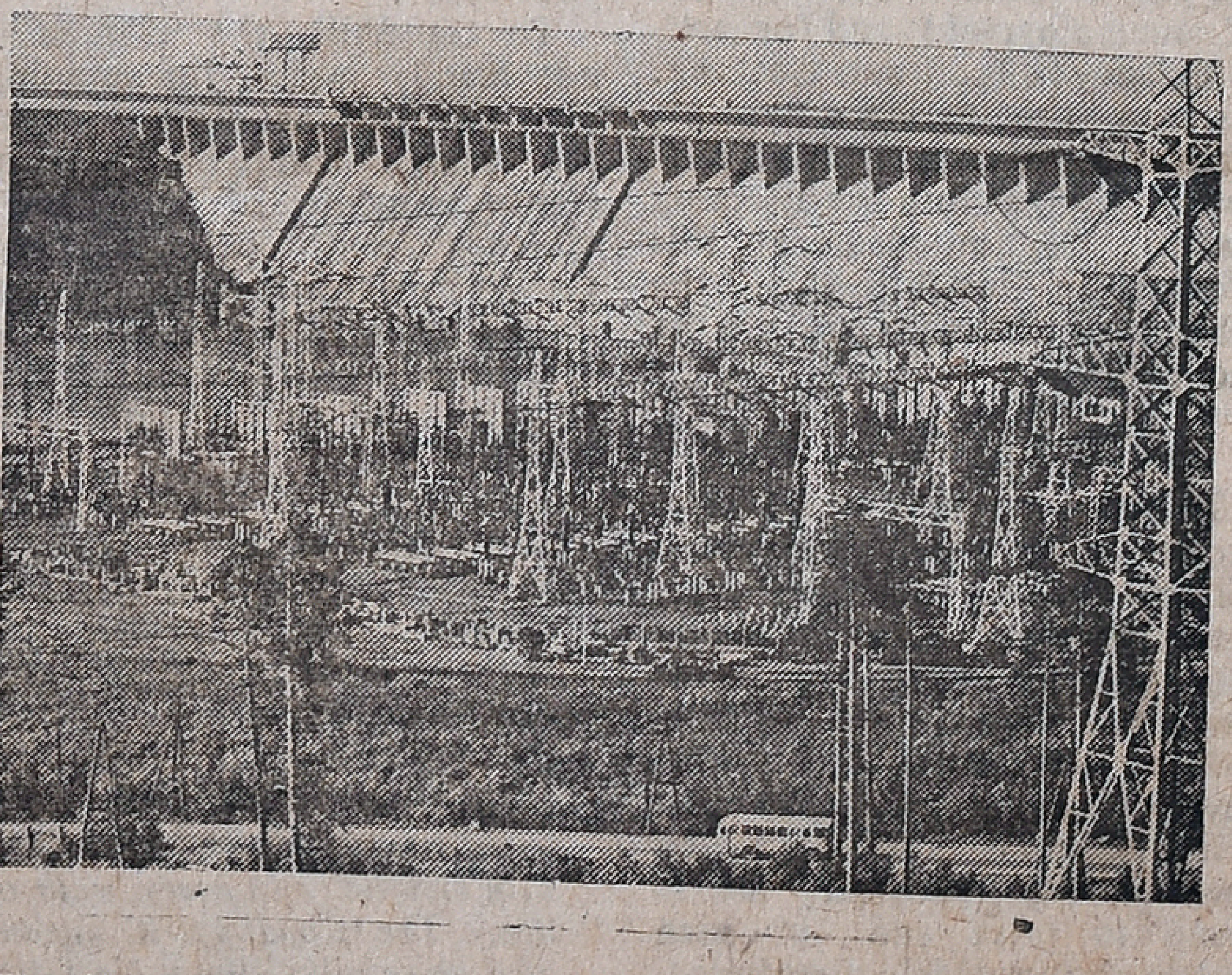
Closely associated with the dynamic development of the Societ economy have been the radical transformations of the social life in USSR. Such social evils as starvation and poverty, unemployment and illiteracy and social and national oppression have been done away with for ever. Over the years, enormous changes have occurred in the living and cultural standards of the working people. The real incomes of the workers in 1976 increased by 10 times and those of the peasants by 14 times, as compared with 1913.

An extensive social programme has been carried out in the last ten years. In the Ninth Five-Year plan period 1971-1975 alone the same amount of funds was allocated to social undertakings as in the two preceding Five-Year plans taken together. A considerable increase in the real incomes of the entire population, the building of houses and community services, the protection of the people's health, the development of culture and sports etc. have been achieved.

GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

Socialism has opened for the people wide access to knowledge. The country, which, sixty years ago, had a predominently illiterate population now has more than three-quarters of the workers engaged in the economy with a higher or secondary education. The transition to universal secondary education has in the main been completed. An enormous step forward has been made in the development of science. Soviet science has reached the most advanced frontiers in a number of areas of mathematics, machanics, quantum electronics, solid-state physics, nuclear power generation, chemistry, biology, space exploration, the sciences of the earth and many other fields of knowledge. The country has about 1.3 million scientific workers or one-fourth of the entire scientific workers in the world.

Another major social gain of the Soviet people is their confidence and deep faith in the future. In accordance with the economic strategy of the CPSU aimed at achieving long-term goals, supreme among which is a steady growth in the living and cultural standards of the people, the current Five-Year Plan has defined the targets not only of the further advancement of the Soviet economy, but also of the all-round social progress of each Soviet family.



The dam of the Bratsk hydropower plant on the Angara River. The installed capacity of the station is 4. 5 million kilowatts.

Working Man Is Now Master Of His Destiny

ADDRESSING the Extraordinary Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, which adopted the New Soviet Consititut on, Deputy Petras Sileikis, a painter and decorator from the Vilnius Building Administration, said : "Soviet power and our Party have elavated the working person high, raising him to the top level of public and state life. He has become master of his own destiny."

The New Constitution of the USSR, which was written practically by the whole Soviet people, confirms the most just organisation of society in the interests of the working people—elevates the working man—the creator and builder high, and invests him with the rights and duties of the master of the country. He is granted the right and real possibilities for participating in the administration of State public affairs, in the discussion and adoption of laws and decisions of national and local importance. This major constitutional provision is a record of the vast experience of practical implementation of Lenin's ideas on the participation of broad masses in administration. Lenin wrote "...When all have learned to administer and actually to independently administer social production...then the door will be thrown wide open for the transition from the first phase of communist society to its higher phase..."

TAKES ACTIVE PART

Taking part in the work of elective organs of Soviet power alone are more than 2,229,000 People's Deputies and with them 30 million activities. More than than 10 million working people take an active part in people's control. Millions of workers, engineers and scientists carry out productive work in various scientific and technical societies. They all participate in solving important and complex problems of economic and cultural development, and exercise control over the functioning of executive Government and economic bodies.

Soviet trade unions, which unite the entire working class, the entire intelligentsia and large number of those working in the countryside, participate in fulfilling many tasks connected with the development of the country's economy from drafting state plans to administering the work of every enterprise.

The most active and effective form of mass-scale participation of workers and employees in the management of production, a form which has become widespread in the Soviet Union, is permanent production conferences that operate under the direct guidance of trade union committees. Last year 50 million people were involved in the work of the permanent production conferences, with more than a hundred million proposals made and introduced in production, aimed at raising the efficiency of production and improving the quality of work.

MASS-SCALE PARTICIPATION

The powers enjoyed by a work collective extend not only to the solution of production problems but also to the all-round education of its members. It concerns itself with enhancing their political consciousness and raising their cultural level and skills and qualifications.

L. I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and Chairman of the Constitutional Commission, delivering the report on the draft Soviet Constitution at the extraordinary session of the USSR Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin in Moscow, on October 4, 1977.

Active participation in the management of production, and the administration of public and state affairs, conscientious and high quality work multiplying the wealth of society—that determines today the status of the Soviet citizen as a master of his destiny and a conscientious creator of the society born of the world's first Socialist Revolution.

Muscovite's Diary

Ivan Ivanov

SOVIET-INDIAN RELATIONS HAVE A GOOD FUTURE

PRIME Minister Mr. Morarji Desai's visit to USSR and the current Soviet-Indian summit meeting are being held at a significant time. The USSR has recently adopted the new Constitution, which has sealed the achievements of the Soviet people over 60 years. India has recently elebrated the 30th Anniversary of its independent development, in the course of which the people of that country has scored impressive achievements in various fields of life. The diplomatic relations established between the USSR and India are 30 years old. These relations have stood the test of the time.

As L.I. Brezhnev said in his banquet speech, "Soviet-Indian cooperation develops in a calm and even political atmosphere, with both sides strictly observing the principles of sovereignty, equality and non-interference in each others' affairs. Our relations offer a good example of peaceful co-existence of states with different social systems, are an important factor of peace and stability in Asia and throughout the world. As they develop, deep friendship between the people of the two great countries-the Soviet Union and India-takes shape and strengthens on the basis of mutual respect and mutual trust. And we are confident, this friendship will live on for ages, the Soviet-Indian relations have a good future."

The Indian Prime Minister too has reiterated the same opinion when he said in an interview to APN, that, "both India and the Soviet Union pursue a policy of peaceful co-existence. The political and economic systems of our countries are different, your country is developing on its own lines, we on ours. But that does not mean any difference in our understanding of friendship." The visit and the talks of Mr. Morarji Desai undoubtedly contribute to the further strengthening of Indo-Soviet relations in future for the benefit of both the countries.

x x x

PORTRAIT OF A NATIONAL HOLIDAY

EACH people's national holiday is connected with the most outstanding event in its history. For the Americans it is the Day when the USA proclaimed its independence - July 4, 1776 for the French - July 14, 1787, the Day the Bastille was taken, and for the Soviet people - November 7, 1917, the Day when the Great October Socialist Revolution triumphed.

The Anniversary of the October Revolution will be celebrated as usual during the two days - November 7 and 8. On November, 7, Moscow's Red Squre witnesses a traditional military march-past and a demonstration of working people. Thanks to communications satellites people in the far east, in Siberia and other distant areas are able to watch the parade and demonstration in full, sitting in front of their T.V. Sets.

In Moscow, immediately after the march-past, a demonstration of working people opens, Red Square is filled with red banners and joyous and enthusiastic people.

During November 7 and 8 many weddings are held by tradition throughout the country. There will also be many housewarming parties in the country. People get flats free of charge, and moving in is marked with particular celebrations. All theatres, cinema theatres, concert halls will function in the holidays. Thousands of concerts will be held in squares, recreation parks and on out-of-door variety stages. These concerts are free, although the best performers participate in them.

Each Soviet citizen, as he look forward to the holiday, is certain that it will be a joyous one. Joyous because the country has become richer. The Soviet economy is developing only onwards at a stable and high pace, with the population fully employed.

The gains of real socialism were put on the scales of history on October 7 (as per the old calender). They are clearly formulated in the fundamental law of the country which 60 years ago became the pioneer of the new worlds. A world of kindness and justice with the human being enjoying the best of everything in it.

Guindy Races Begin With Colourful Memories

By "SNAPPER"

THE completion of 200 years of racing experience by any turf authority certainly speaks volumes of its capacity and efficiency in conducting this king of sports.

The Madras Race Club is in this happy position when the 1977-78 season opens at Guindy on Sunday, November 6.

To commemorate the Bicentenary year, the MRC has decided to fix March 5, 1978 as the Cup Day when among other rich prizes offered on that day, a special event will be formulated to enable the cream of runners from other racing centres in the country also to participate at Guindy. One of the plums would probably be the Bicentenial Cup event in which the winner will be awarded a trophy worth Rs. 10,000 together with stake money amounting to two-lakh rupees—the largest prize so far offered by any turf authority in India. Next to the Turf Invitation Cup event run annually in turns by the various race clubs, this event assumes a prestigious place in racing history.

MEMORABLE EVENTS

It would be partinent to recall on this occasion atleast a few of the memorable happenings at Guindy race course in the distant past which have elevated the Madras Race Club to its premiere position among turf authorities in any part of the world.

On January 13, 1922, the Club had honoured the then Prince of Wales (the late Duke of Windsor) when he was on a visit to India which was then part of the British Empire; the electric tote came into operation as early as 1924; Lord Reading as Viceroy of India visited Guindy race course on December 8, 1923; the Earl and Countess of Derby attended three days of racing at the Club in 1932; In the year 1933, the ex-king Don Alfonso of Spain graced the Club with his presence; the photo finish camera was installed during the 1951-52 season; Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II with her consort, the Duke of Edinburgh came to Guindy in 1961, when, to commemorate the visit, a Cup event named after the Queen was introduced and this prestigious race earmarked for two year-olds is run each year at the racing centres at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

ADDED ATTRACTION

In 1963 the MRC started the Apprentice Jockeys Training School which has produced a young crop of excellent riders. In 1970, the closed circuit TV of the races at the Club was introduced; the Equine Hospital for looking after the health of the horses and the Analytical Laboratory, one of the best in the country came into existence the same year. A swimming pool for horses was set up early this year.

About 450, horses, mares, colts, fillies and geldings will be participating during the current season of which two-year-olds alone total 100. In addition to the popular trainers, new faces will include Capt. J. Fownes, Mr. Khalandar (a former jockey), Mr. Vijay Khanna, Mr. B. L. Mohan and G. Rajasekharan.

The biggest attraction which brings racegoers in their thousands to Guindy is the hope of solving the huge jackpot at each race meeting. This year, because of the popularity of inter-venue betting seen at Guindy, the investment amount on a single jackpot ticket may be reduced to Rs. 5 instead of Rs. 10 in the previous years An additional attraction will be the two Double Pool events introduced for the first time at Guindy.

Living The Role

In many countries actors and artists earn much less than other people, says an International Labour Organization report. In Norway an artist gets only a quarter of a civil service clerk's starting pay, while in France the earnings of actors and sculptors are below the national minimum wage. Fewer and fewer people dedicate themselves to the muses. In West Germany over the past twenty years the number of musicians and singers has dropped 40 per cent. Almost universally, the ILO report says, actors and artists are forced to look for side jobs, "acting" as unskilled labourers and office clerks.

Divorce Rate Up In England

In England the divorce rate has nearly trebled in seven years and is now among the highest in the world.

This was announced by High Court Judge Sir George Baker, who is the president of the High Court Family Division, at the Law Society annual conference at Harrogate in England.

According to him growing numbers of British couples were opting to live together without getting married for various reasons—financial, a distrust of marriage, refusal to be lied down or just indifference.

From page 3

Sardar . . . .

of India. His anxiety to form the Union of Pepsu at the earliest possible opportunity was actuated by these very considerations to provide a stable base of defence against onslaughts from the North.

Junagadh, Hyderabad and Kashmir were the only States which created a plethora of problems for their integration into the Motherland. While Sardar could play his full role in case of Junagadh and Hyderabad, he was thwarted from acting in the case of Kashmir although it was essentially a 'subject' relating to State Ministry and was initially treated as such. It is worthy of note how Menon flew to Srinagar and Jammu to get Maharaja's assent to the Instrument of Accession when the enemies were at a stone's throw from Baramula how Sardar anxiously awaited his arrival for hours at the Delhi aerodrome not to lose even a moment to rush up Military by air in aid of the valley. This is a fascinating story of dash and quick action and the great valour of our forces on the mountaineous terrains of Kashmir. But soon Sardar was disillusioned by the way the whole issue was being handled in Delhi; and in sheer desperation, he had practically washed his hands off this intriguing business.

Yet when the question of Kashmir's constitutional ties with India came up in the Indian Constituent Assembly, he could not brook the overtures of Sheikh beyond a point and that link though liberal in nature has proved to be a vital link in India's relationship with Kashmir.

Sardar, to quote his own words, has bequeathed to us "a real Union of the Indian people built on the basic concept of the sovereignty of the people. It removes all barriers between the people of the States and the people of provinces and achieves for the first time the objective of a strong democratic India built on the true foundation of a co-operative enterprise on the part of the peoples of the Provinces and the States alike."

From page 5

Khadi: Panacea For The Millions

India, who is wedded to Gandhian ideals, has already hinted to expand and intensify the khadi programme all over the country.

There is a feeling among a section of the people that Khaddar is coarse, heavy, expensive and less durable and the quality is very much inferior to that of mill-made cloth. It is true that it was so in the earlier stages. People wore khaddar, with all its infirmity, not for fashion or comfort but in the interest of the poor and the nation.

One cannot forget the fact that the hand-made cloth, before the advent of the mill-cloth was fine and durable. The samples of such fine cloth are even now kept in museums in India and Britain. It is not therefore impossible to make better quality cloth by manual process than mill-made cloth.

The technology in khadi industry has very much improved. Appropriate technology has been adopted for ginning, carding etc. Power is used up to silvering stage to remove drudgery. Carefully spun charka yarn is tested by modern scientific textile testing apparatus. It is found fully equal to that made in the textile mills, both in respect of quality and durability. An increasing amount of really fine and durable khaddar is being made.

POLYSTER BLEND

Fine variety of cloth of muslin quality, much finer than the mill-made cloth, is produced in various khadi centres in Tamil Nadu, Andhra, Bihar and some other States. Cloth is dyed and printed in various attractive colours and designs applying modern technology, catering to the tastes of all sections of People. Out of khadi, garments are made with various designs, which are more attractive and modern than the garments made out of mill cloth.

If one walks into any Gramodyog Bhavan or any khadi shop, one can see as to how khadi industry has developed in producing varieties of fine and durable cloth. Today there is no problem even for sophisticated people to get khadi cloth and garments to their taste. It has been recently announced that polyster blend khaddar cloth is made and it is found to be good and durable.

Deepavali festival is approaching. A very attractive discount of 30% on cotton, 25% on raw silk and 15% on wool has been granted. Thousands of people rush to purchase Khadi and help the poor whom we have not seen face to face. Let us have the spirit of khadi.

Let us recall the immortal words of Gandhiji on this festive occasion. 'The Khadi Spirit' means fellow feeling with every human being on earth. It means a complete renunciation of everything that is likely to harm our fellow-creatures, and if we, but cultivate that spirit amongst the millions of our countrymen, what a land this India of ours would be.

Printed and Published for the Free India Private Ltd., by G. Rangarajan at the Free India Press, 77, General Patters Road, Mount Road, Madras-600002. Editor: G. Rangarajan. Telephone: 85304.